

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 2 and add new claims 7-16 as follows. A listing of all present claims and amendments is provided below in compliance with revised 37 CFR 1.121.

1. (currently amended) A vehicle navigation server comprising:
 - a travel route calculating device for calculating at least one proposed travel route of a vehicle based on data input by a registrant to the server, the data including a current or start position and a destination of the vehicle;
 - a map mesh defining device for defining a map mesh consisting of mesh units, which contains the proposed travel route;
 - a traffic information extracting device for extracting traffic information relating to each mesh unit of the proposed travel route from a traffic information storage device, ~~in turn, in a manner such that~~ wherein the traffic information relating to the mesh unit which includes the start or current position of the vehicle is obtained first;
 - a data amount monitoring device for monitoring a total amount of extracted information, wherein the data amount monitoring device terminates information extraction ~~for the following mesh units~~ when the total amount of extracted information becomes equal to or larger than a predetermined value; and
 - a data sending device for sending the extracted traffic information to a vehicle navigation device ~~built into~~ associated with the vehicle.
2. (currently amended) A vehicle navigation server as claimed in claim 1, wherein the traffic information sent to the vehicle navigation device is selectable ~~for each of~~ from one or

more information categories, and the traffic information belonging to at least one selected information category ~~which is selected freely or in advance is extracted and is~~ sent to the vehicle navigation device.

3. (original) A vehicle navigation server as claimed in claim 1, wherein the traffic information sent to the vehicle navigation device is a combination of detailed information about a section from the mesh unit which includes the current or start position of the vehicle to a predetermined one of the mesh units and simplified information about the remaining mesh units following the predetermined mesh unit.

4. (original) A vehicle navigation server as claimed in claim 2, wherein the traffic information sent to the vehicle navigation device is a combination of detailed information about a section from the mesh unit which includes the current or start position of the vehicle to a predetermined one of the mesh units and simplified information about the remaining mesh units following the predetermined mesh unit.

5. (original) A vehicle navigation server as claimed in claim 1, wherein the traffic information is extracted for each mesh unit in order from the mesh unit closest to the vehicle to the mesh unit furthest from the vehicle.

6. (original) A vehicle navigation server as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one information category is selected in advance by a passenger of the vehicle.

7. (new) A method of providing traffic information from a vehicle navigation server, the method comprising steps of:

calculating at least one proposed travel route of a vehicle based on data input by a registrant to the server, the data including a current or start position and a destination of the vehicle;

defining a map mesh having mesh units, the map mesh including a representation of the proposed travel route;

extracting traffic information relating to each mesh unit of the proposed travel route from a traffic information storage device in a manner such that traffic information relating to the mesh unit which includes the start or current position of the vehicle is obtained first;

monitoring a total amount of extracted traffic information;

terminating the information extraction when the total amount of extracted traffic information becomes equal to or larger than a predetermined value; and

sending the extracted traffic information to a vehicle navigation device associated with the vehicle.

8. (new) A method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising the step of selecting at least one category of traffic information, wherein the traffic information sent to the vehicle navigation device is at least from the selected category.

9. (new) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the traffic information sent to the vehicle navigation device is a combination of information including information about a section from the mesh unit which includes the current or start position of the vehicle to a predetermined

one of the mesh units and information about the remaining mesh units following the predetermined mesh unit.

10. (new) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the traffic information is extracted for each mesh unit in order from the mesh unit closest to the vehicle to the mesh unit furthest from the vehicle.

11. (new) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said at least one information category is selected in advance by a passenger of the vehicle.

12. (new) A vehicle navigation apparatus comprising:

a travel route calculating means for calculating at least one proposed travel route of a vehicle based on data input by a registrant to the apparatus, the data including a current or start position and a destination of the vehicle;

a map mesh defining means for defining a map mesh consisting of mesh units, the map mesh containing information defining the proposed travel route;

a traffic information extracting means for extracting traffic information relating to each mesh unit of the proposed travel route from a traffic information storage device, the traffic information extracting means extracting traffic information in a manner such that traffic information relating to the mesh unit which includes the start or current position of the vehicle is obtained first;

a data amount monitoring means for monitoring a total amount of extracted information, wherein the data amount monitoring means terminates the information extraction when the total amount of extracted information becomes equal to or larger than a predetermined value; and

a data sending means for sending the extracted traffic information to a vehicle navigation device linked with the vehicle.

13. (new) A vehicle navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the traffic information sent to the vehicle navigation device is selectable from one or more information categories.

14. (new) A vehicle navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the traffic information sent to the vehicle navigation device is a combination of information including information about a section from the mesh unit which includes the current or start position of the vehicle to a predetermined one of the mesh units and information about the remaining mesh units following the predetermined mesh unit.

15. (new) A vehicle navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the traffic information is extracted for each mesh unit in order from the mesh unit closest to the vehicle to the mesh unit furthest from the vehicle.

16. (new) A vehicle navigation apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the information category is selected in advance by a passenger of the vehicle.